Pending enquiries in Super Bazar

685. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names, designations and brief details of cases of Assistant Managers, Sales Assistants, Account Supervisors of Super Bazar in Connaught Place, against whom enquiries are pending for violating the norms and guidelines laid down for dealings in purchase, counter-sales and cash handlings, department-wise particularly in furniture and textiles; and

(b) the details of above cited category-wise officials against whom enquiries have been completed/to be completed alongwith the details of action taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the cases under enquiry against the officers of Super Bazar working in Connaught Place is Annexed.

Statement

Cases under Disciplinary inquiry against officer of Super Bazar

Placing Purchase Orders for supply of Tarang Tea in bulk quantity without receiving due Indents

Name of the official involved :

(i) Sh. O.P. Malhotra, the then A.M. Purchase Department.

(ii) Sh. Hem Singh, the then Senior Supervisor.

Brief facts of the case :

Shri O.P. Malhotra, A.M. Purchase Department placed Purchase Orders for bulk supply of Tarang Tea without receiving due Indents from the Branches/Stores.

Consequent upon investigation in this respect, a major penalty inquiry has been instituted against the concerned official and the Inquiry Report is in progress.

In the same case, Inquiry was also held against Shri Hem Singh, Junior Supervisor for placing Indents without any requirement Inquiry in this respect has been completed and penalty of demotion has been imposed upon Shri Hem Singh.

Mis-appropriation of cash during Diwali Mela

Name of the official invoved : Shri K. K. Tiwari, S.A. Brief Facts of the Case: Shri Tiwari, S.A. while working at Cracker Counter during Diwali Mela purportedly misappropriated cash sales. The case was registered with the Connaught Place Police Station and the police filed the challan in the court. The outcome of the case is awaited.

There is no case particularly of Furniture and Textiles Departments under Inquiry in the Vigilance Department.

Appointments in the cadre of Sales Assistnnts in Super Bazar

686. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of employees who have been appointed in the cadre of sales assistants since 1991 in Super Bazar under the administrative powers of the General Manager ;

(b) the details of their names, date of appointment, qualification, date of birth, place of posting, marital status and whether belongs to SC/ST and OBC or not ;

(c) whether there is any specific quota reserved for women candidates/ applicants for the post of sales assistants;

(d) whether any special perks and package has been offered to them;

(e) whether it is a fact that there is no promotional scope for women sales assistants in Super Bazar services; and

(f) if so. the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) Super Bazar has reported that no new appointment of Sales Assistants has been made since 1991 except for regularising the services of four employees who were already working on daily wages and appointment of two employees on compassionate grounds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Promotional scope is available to women Sales Assistants at par with male Sales Asstt. in accordance with the Recruitment & Promotional Rules according to their merit-cum-seniority subject to availability of vacancies.

Increasing prices of essential commodities

687. SHRI O. P. KOHLI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of a number of essential commodities, such as pulses, edible oils, desi ghee, coffee, white butter, rice etc. have increased sharply in recent months ; and

(b) if so, by how much amount have the prices of these commodities risen, commodity-wise and what action has Government taken or propose to take to contain the rise in prices of these commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) A comparative statement indicating the trends in the index number of wholesale prices of various essential commodities is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure No. 18[.

(b) The extent of the rise in the prices of selected essential commodities has also been indicated in the Annexure.

The Government has given highest priority for controlling the rise in prices within reasonable limits. The inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Monitoring of Prices reviews the price scenario and advises the concerned authorities to take appropriate and timely action. Efforts are being made to increase the production. Commodities which are in short supply are being imported to supplement their easy availability in the market. Imports of sugar, palmolein and cotton have been placed under Open General Licence (OGL). Public Distribution System is being strengthened and streamlined so that its benefits reach even in the inaccessible areas. Stringent action against hoarders, blackmarketeers and such anti-social activists is being taken under the Essential Comodmities Act and similar other legislations.